

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 20, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1920

Introduced by Assembly Member Davis

February 16, 2010

An act to add ~~Section 16168 to~~ and repeal Section 16015 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to foster youth.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1920, as amended, Davis. Foster youth: personal information: pilot program.

~~Existing law establishes the Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson in the State Department of Social Services with prescribed powers and duties relating to the management of foster children, including the dissemination of information on the rights of children and youth in foster care provides for the out-of-home placement of children who are unable to remain in the custody and care of their parent or parents, including providing for a range of child welfare and foster care services, at the state and local levels. Existing law identifies the case plan as the foundation and central unifying tool in child welfare services, and requires various categories of information to be incorporated into a child's case plan.~~

This bill would require the ~~office~~ State Department of Social Services to take all necessary steps to establish and implement an Internet Web-based foster care document storage pilot program and authorize the counties of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Bernardino to participate in this pilot program in accordance with the bill. The bill

would provide that the pilot program would consist of an interactive, secured Internet Web site designed to give foster youth and ~~their care providers~~ *former foster youth from 15 to 21 years of age, inclusive*, access to designated personal information of the foster youth. The bill would require the ~~office~~ *department* to ensure that the Internet Web site maintains the confidentiality of medical and other records on the Internet Web site, consistent with applicable state and federal law.

This bill would *require participating counties to report to the Legislature, on or before October 1, 2014, on the effectiveness of the pilot program, as specified. It would* authorize the funding of the pilot program through private, public, or nonprofit funding sources.

This bill would provide for the repeal of its provisions on January 1, 2016.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 16168 is added to the Welfare and~~
- 2 ~~Institutions Code, to read:~~
- 3 ~~16168. (a) The Office of the State Foster Care Ombudsperson~~
- 4 ~~SECTION 1. Section 16015 is added to the Welfare and~~
- 5 ~~Institutions Code, to read:~~
- 6 ~~16015. (a) The State Department of Social Services shall take~~
- 7 ~~all necessary steps, including consulting with all appropriate state~~
- 8 ~~departments departments and foster youth advocates, including,~~
- 9 ~~but not limited to, California Youth Connection, the County Welfare~~
- 10 ~~Directors Association of California (CWDA), and Living~~
- 11 ~~Advantage, Inc., to establish and implement an Internet Web-based~~
- 12 ~~foster care document storage pilot program, and authorize the~~
- 13 ~~counties of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Bernardino to~~
- 14 ~~participate in this pilot program in accordance with this section.~~
- 15 ~~(b) The pilot program established pursuant to this section shall~~
- 16 ~~consist of an interactive, secured, Internet Web site, designed to~~
- 17 ~~give foster youth and their care providers former foster youth from~~
- 18 ~~15 to 21 years of age, inclusive, access to the foster youth's~~
- 19 ~~personal information, as described in subdivision (c).~~
- 20 ~~(c) The information maintained on the Internet Web site shall~~
- 21 ~~include, but shall not be limited to, all of the following:~~
- 22 ~~(1) Birth records.~~

1 (2) Social security numbers.

2 (3) Immunization and other medical records.

3 (4) School records.

4 (5) Official identification cards.

5 (6) Résumés.

6 (d) The Internet Web site shall allow a foster child to develop
7 a personal database to store important telephone numbers and
8 addresses.

9 (e) The Internet Web site shall also provide information and
10 links to connect foster youth to appropriate resources to meet their
11 educational needs, independent living skills requirements, and
12 work needs.

13 (f) The ~~office~~ department shall ensure that the Internet Web site
14 maintains the confidentiality of medical and other records on the
15 Internet Web site, consistent with the requirements of this section
16 and applicable state and federal law.

17 (g) (1) *Each participating county shall prepare a report, which*
18 *shall be submitted to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees*
19 *of the Legislature on or before October 1, 2014, on the*
20 *effectiveness of the pilot program in improving access to vital*
21 *documents and any problems associated with ensuring the safety*
22 *of private or confidential information of the foster youth*
23 *participating in the pilot program.*

24 (2) *A report required by this subdivision shall be submitted in*
25 *compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.*

26 ~~(g)~~

27 (h) The pilot program established under this section may be
28 funded through private, public, or nonprofit funding sources.

29 (i) *This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016,*
30 *and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that*
31 *is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.*